

State of Iowa

Executive Department

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER SEVENTEEN

RELATING TO THE CONSERVATION OF ENERGY IN STATE GOVERNMENT

PREAMBLE

When I delivered my inaugural message to Iowans at the beginning of this year I said that "This country will have to become as conscious of energy management in the 1970's as we became environmentally conscious in the 1960's."

That statement is even more timely today than it was when that message was delivered in January.

The energy crisis in the United States has evolved from a series of scare headlines in the public press a few months ago to a national reality. Only the most sophomoric person would still state that it is all a part of some giant conspiracy caused by somebody else. The fact is that all of us share the responsibility for the actual and impending shortages of fuel oil, natural gas, propane, diesel fuel and the other energy sources which today's complex society must have for its operation.

And just as all of us have had a part in creation of the situation in which we find ourselves today, so can all of us be a part in the solution.

The quantity of our resources of fossil fuels was predetermined millions of years ago. We have plundered and wasted this resource in a span of only a few decades. And now, just at a time when we see an end to our oil and gas reserves in sight, other nations are reaching the same level of technology and are competing with Americans for what is left.

We face a new experience in the months and years ahead. We must learn to live with scarcity and we must do it even more quickly than we adjusted to the novelty of living with affluence.

A national policy of cheap energy brought us to where we are now. That has changed. We are already seeing that our energy supply will no longer be low-cost. We are seeing that it will not be as plentiful.

Scientists and experts around this nation are working to develop alternate energy sources in order to move us away from the almost total dependence on the most-used fossil fuels of oil and natural gas.

There is reason to be optimistic that we will find ways to harness the energy of the sun, to remove the high sulphur content from the vast deposits of coal that still remain in our possession, to draw thermal energy from the very core of the earth and to develop the breeder reactor so that widespread use of nuclear power actually happens.

As amazing as our technological advancement has been in the past, we would be naive to believe that these new technological breakthroughs will happen quickly enough to alleviate the present predicament.

Sound energy conservation in both the public and private sectors is urgently needed.

On November 7, 1973, the President of the United States announced that he was instituting certain steps at the federal level of government to effect energy conservation. Consistent with these announced intentions, I am issuing Executive Order Number Seventeen effective this date.

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER SEVENTEEN

I, ROBERT D. RAY, GOVERNOR OF IOWA, in accordance with the powers vested in me under Article IV of the Constitution of the State of Iowa do hereby order:

1. That all motor vehicles owned by the State of Iowa in its various departments be operated in a manner so as not to exceed a speed limit of 50 miles an hour at any time, with the exception of those being used for bona fide emergencies. I further direct the Iowa Highway Patrol to enforce this section of Executive Order Number Seventeen in the following manner:

Operators of State-Owned vehicles operating said vehicles in excess of the 50 miles per hour limit shall upon first offense receive a warning from the arresting officer. Subsequent violations will be reported to the office of the State Car Dispatcher or to the appropriate State Department head for disciplinary action. Said disciplinary action may include, but shall not be limited to, immediate suspension of the privilege of operating a motor vehicle that is owned by the State of Iowa.

Those violations of this order considered in the judgment of the offender's immediate supervisor to be willful and flagrant shall constitute grounds for the commencement of dismissal proceedings against said offender.

2. That all thermostats controlling the heating of state-owned buildings, or those leased or otherwise controlled by the state, with the exception of certain sickrooms, nursing or other health care facilities, shall be set during periods of normal use at a temperature not to exceed 68 degrees. In those periods during a 24-hour period when the buildings or portions of the buildings are not in use, the thermostats shall be further reduced to 65 degrees.

I further direct the Director of the General Services to carry out the provision of this order and direct the cooperation of all employees of state government in complying with this directive.

3. As the Commander-in-Chief, I hereby direct the Adjutant General of the Iowa National Guard to initiate all appropriate energy conservation measures, particularly those applicable to the operation of aircraft under control of the State of Iowa. This order shall include the curtailment of all non-essential training missions of propeller-driven and jet aircraft and helicopters with the goal of eliminating all flights which cannot be demonstrated as to be necessary for maintaining the proficiency level required by federal military authorities.

4. I hereby order the curtailment of uses of electrical energy in state government for the decorative lighting of facilities under state control. This shall include, but not be limited, to night lighting of the state capitol building, the exterior lighting of other state buildings, and exterior holiday lighting. I further direct administrative officers in state government to determine what lighting can be eliminated and still meet essential requirements for night security and safety in buildings and along state-maintained streets and highways.

5. I direct all employees of state government to conscientiously adopt a policy of turning out all lights in rooms in state offices when not in use except as required for safety either during or after working hours.

6. I direct all state department heads to institute a practice of reducing heat loss of state facilities, including, but not limited to, closing of doors and windows, sealing cracks around windows, sealing fireplace and other outlets.

7. I direct the Department of General Services and the State Car Dispatcher, in cooperation with all other administrators in state government to immediately establish a system of vehicle dispatching at the various locations of state government and in the Regents institutions in order to effectively coordinate the usage of state vehicles and to pool trips by state employees and prevent travel duplication.

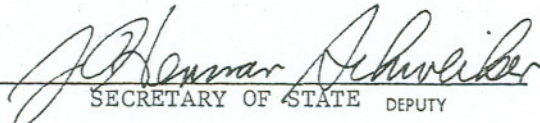
8. I urge the directors of our educational agencies to immediately coordinate and institute a state program of energy conservation education utilizing the capabilities of our Department of Public Instruction, the Area Schools, the Extension Service and the State Universities.

The measures directed above shall take effect on November 9, 1973.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have
hereunto subscribed my name and
caused the Great Seal of the
State of Iowa to be affixed.
Done at Des Moines, Iowa, this
12th day of November in the year
of our Lord one thousand nine
hundred seventy-three.


GOVERNOR

Attest:


SECRETARY OF STATE DEPUTY